Robbins, Joanne

From: Gennifer Mountain [gmountain@mowsos.org]
Sent: Tuesday, August 05, 2008 2:56 PM
To: Anderson, Mike; DTazin@lovelafayette.org; Andersson, Brandt; Anduri, Carl; Federighi, Carol; Falk, Steven; Robbins, Joanne
Subject: City of Lafayette-Fall Prevention Awareness Week

Proclamation.doc
(29 KB)

Dear Mayor Anderson and Lafayette City Council Members,

As you all know, older adult falls are a huge issue in California and in Contra Costa County. In 2005 there were 2,254 older adults who were hospitalized as a result of falls in Contra Costa County. The average cost of a fall related hospitalization in this county is $52,447. Contra Costa is expected to experience an older adult growth rate of 128% to 180 % over the next 15 years.

In an effort to help raise awareness about how to reduce falls SCR 77 (Lowenthal) "Fall Prevention Awareness Week, Sept 21-27" has passed the California State Senate and the Assembly. On September 16,2008 Contra Costa County will receive, a signed Proclamation by the Board of Supervisors declaring the week of Sept 21-27 "Fall Prevention Awareness Week" in Contra Costa County.

We are asking you to issue a proclamation declaring the week of Sept 21-27 "Fall Prevention Awareness Week" in your city. If you would like input in determining who will appear at your meeting to receive the proclamation, please let me know and I will contact service providers in your area who are working in Falls Prevention Programs.

Members of the Fall Prevention Coalition of Contra Costa County will be working with senior service providers throughout the county to help organize events and activities that help promote fall prevention awareness. By making it an "Officially" recognized week you will help highlight the importance of older adults and their service providers working together to lower fall risk and avoid this life altering event. The Fall Prevention Program of Contra Costa County is working to be a great advocate in senior injury prevention in California and this is a great opportunity to show that every elected official in this county recognizes the enormity of this issue.

I'm attaching a copy of the wording of the Contra Costa County Proclamation.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this event, please contact me.

Thank you for your participation,

Gennifer Mountain

Falls Prevention Program Manager
Meals on Wheels-Senior Outreach Services 1300 Civic Drive Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Phone: (925)937-8311 ext 110
Fax: (925)946-1869
www.mowsos.org

13C

LAFAYETTE
SETTLED 1848 = INCORPORATED 1968

CITY COUNCIL
Mike Anderson, Mayor
Don Tatzin, Vice Mayor
Brandt Andersson, Council Member
Carl Anduri, Council Member
Carol Federighi, Council Member

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, it is estimated nearly 15 percent of Contra Costa County's estimated 1,025,000 people are 60 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that one-third of adults over the age of 60 and 50 percent of adults over the age of 80 will fall each year with medical costs of each fall-related hospitalization estimated at $52, 447; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 2,254 older adults in Contra Costa County suffered injuries from a fall great enough to result in hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, falling and the fear of falling can lead to depression, isolation, diminished mobility and loss of functional independence; and

WHEREAS, injuries from falls are a largely preventable community health problem. The cause of falls is composed of multiple contributing factors including lack of strength in the lower extremities, the use of multiple medications reduced vision, chronic health problems and unsafe environments; and

WHEREAS, concentrated efforts are being made in Contra Costa County to reduce falls and fall related injuries by using multi-faceted interventions; and

WHEREAS, at the State level SCR 77 (D-Lowenthal) Fall Prevention Awareness Week has passed the Senate and the Assembly. At the Federal level the Safety of Seniors Act of 2007 (S. 845) was passed in April. This bill calls for the expansion of public health programs, educational outreach and research activities related to fall prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on behalf of the Lafayette City Council I hereby proclaim the week of September 21, 2008 as FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK in Contra Costa County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Lafayette this 8th day of September, 2008.

_____

Mike Anderson, Mayor

3675 MT. DIABLO BLVD., SUITE 210, LAFAYETTE, CA 94549
TELEPHONE: (925) 284-1968 FAX: (925) 284-3169
http//:www.ci.lafayette.ca.us